

MAZIE V. SULLIVAN.

JUNE 14, 1898.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. GIBSON, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 10285.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 10285) granting an increase of pension to Mazie V. Sullivan, have examined the same and the evidence relating thereto and respectfully report:

This bill as amended proposes to increase from \$8 to \$12 per month the pension of Mazie V. Sullivan, of Washington, D. C., the widow of George R. Sullivan, late private in Company G, Eleventh Maryland Volunteer Infantry, who served from May 31 to September 28, 1864, and was honorably discharged.

The soldier never filed a claim for pension, and the widow has never filed a claim under the general law, as she can not prove that her husband's death was due to his military service. She has filed and established a claim under the act of June 27, 1890, and is now in receipt of a pension of \$8 per month under said act. She is receiving all the pension to which she is entitled under any general pension law.

It is shown by testimony filed with this committee that she is entirely incapacitated for any kind of work or business. That about three years ago she became afflicted with a cancerous growth on her right hand, in consequence of which the hand was amputated. Since then her whole system seems to be involved.

She is a great sufferer, and has become so debilitated that she can scarcely get about. She has no means of support except her pension, having no other income and no property except a few household goods of very little value. Her only son, a young man who did help her what he could, never earned but a little more than enough for his own support, but he has been ill and in hospital nearly all the time during the past eight months, and claimant, except for her pension of \$8 per month, is supported by charity. She formerly worked at sewing, but the loss of her hand renders anything of that kind now impossible.

She was married to the soldier in May, 1869, and is 52 years of age.

A bill was favorably reported from this committee in the Fifty-fourth Congress to increase the pension of this claimant to \$12 per month.

There is, as before stated, no legal title to any more pension than she is now receiving, and the only reason for asking more is her sore need.

This case is meritorious and somewhat exceptional, although there are scattered through the land thousands of widows of soldiers just as needy as this one who are drawing only \$8 per month, which is the total amount fixed by law in such a case.

In similar cases your committee has granted a reasonable increase, and here it might be proper to give a greater increase if the soldier had seen much service or there was any probability that he died as the result of a disability incurred in the service. There is no pretense of that kind. This claimant did not suffer any of the anxieties or privations of a soldier's wife, as she did not marry the soldier until May, 1869, about four years after the war closed, and as the husband did not suffer from any disease contracted in the service the claimant has lost nothing by reason of her husband being a soldier; in fact she has gained a pension of \$8 a month by reason of having married the soldier some four or five years after the war closed, and who contracted no disease or disability while serving his country between May 31, 1864, and September 28, 1864.

The bill is reported back with the recommendation that it pass when amended as follows:

In line 4, after the word "roll," insert "subject to the provisions and limitations of the pension laws."

In line 7 strike out the words "of twenty" and insert in lieu thereof the words "at the rate of twelve."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, *County of Washington*, ss:

In the matter of Mazie V. Sullivan, widow of George R. Sullivan, late of Company G, Eleventh Maryland Volunteer Infantry, for increase of pension.

On this 9th day of May, A. D. 1898, personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for the aforesaid county, duly authorized to administer oaths, William P. Grove, aged 66 years, a resident of Washington, D. C., whose post-office address is No. 623 M street NW., Washington, D. C., well known to me to be reputable and entitled to credit, and who, being duly sworn, declares in relation to the aforesaid case as follows: He is well acquainted with Mrs. Mazie V. Sullivan. She is entirely incapacitated for any kind of work or business. About three years ago she became afflicted with a cancerous growth on her right hand, in consequence of which the hand was amputated. Since then her whole system seems to be involved. She is a great sufferer, and has become so debilitated that she can scarcely get about. She has no means of support, except \$8 a month pension, granted her under the act of June 27, 1890, certificate No. 389594. She has no other income and no property except a little household furniture of very little value. Her only son, a young man, who did help her all he could, never earned but little more than enough for his own support by being very economical. The said son has been ill and in hospital nearly all the time during the past eight months. The claimant is supported entirely by charity, except her pension as aforesaid. I know these facts by my intimate acquaintance with her since 1881. A bill was presented in second session of Fifty-fourth Congress, No. 9337, was favorably reported, but not passed.

He further declares that he has no interest in said case.

WM. P. GROVE.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, *County of Washington*, ss:

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of May, A. D. 1898, by the above-named affiant. I acquainted him with its contents before he executed the same. I further certify that I am in no wise interested in said case, nor am I concerned in its prosecution, and that said affiant is personally well known to me, and that he is a credible person.

[SEAL.]

CHAS. S. SHREVE,
Notary Public, District of Columbia.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, *County of Washington*, ss :

In the matter of Mrs. Mazie V. Sullivan, widow of George R. Sullivan, late of Company G, Eleventh Maryland Volunteer Infantry.

On this 4th day of June, A. D. 1896, personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for the aforesaid county, duly authorized to administer oaths, Paul F. Grove, aged 23 years, a resident of Washington, in the county of Washington and District of Columbia, who, being duly sworn, declared in relation to aforesaid case as follows:

He is well and intimately acquainted with Mrs. Mazie V. Sullivan. He knows her financial and her physical condition, and that she has no income except \$8 per month pension. She has no property of any sort, except household furniture, worth about \$75 to \$100. There is no one legally bound to support her. She had worked at dressmaking and other needlework as long as she could. During the past two years she could do but little, because of a disease in her right hand, which made the amputation of said hand necessary several months ago. She is now totally and permanently disabled for doing anything toward earning a support, and her pension is inadequate to support her. She has been at an expense during her suffering which she has not been able to pay, and she has no relatives able to assist her but little. She is a most exemplary and worthy woman.

He further declares that he has no interest in said case and he is not concerned in its prosecution.

PAUL F. GROVE.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, *County of Washington*, ss :

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day by the above-named affiant; and I certify that I read said affidavit to said affiant and acquainted him with its contents before he executed the same. I further certify that I am in no wise interested in said case, nor am I concerned in its prosecution; and that said affiant is personally known to me, and that he is a creditable person.

[SEAL.]

T. A. DUFFY,
Notary Public, District of Columbia.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ss :

In the matter of pension of Mazie V. Sullivan, widow of George R. Sullivan.

On this 5th day of June, A. D. 1896, personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for the aforesaid District, duly authorized to administer oaths, George N. Perry, aged 45 years, a resident of Washington, D. C., who, being duly sworn, declared in relation to aforesaid case as follows:

I am the physician of the said Mazie V. Sullivan. She has severe attacks of rheumatism, which at times keep her confined to her bed for several weeks at a time. More recently a cancer appeared on her right hand, and it became necessary to amputate said hand about 3 inches above the wrist. In consequence of these disabilities she is totally and permanently disabled and can never support herself by any kind of manual labor.

She also suffers greatly from pain at times. She is very poor, and were it not for the kindness of friends would often suffer greatly for the necessities of life. I further declare that I have no interest in said case, and I am not concerned in its prosecution.

GEO. N. PERRY, M. D.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ss :

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day by the above-named affiant; and I certify that I read said affidavit to said affiant and acquainted him with its contents before he executed the same. I further certify that I am in no wise interested in said case, nor am I concerned in its prosecution; and that said affiant is personally known to me, and that he is a creditable person.

[SEAL.]

HENRY J. GROSS, *Notary Public.*

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, *County of Washington*, ss :

In the matter of Mrs. Mazie V. Sullivan, widow of the late George R. Sullivan, of Company G, Eleventh Maryland Volunteer Infantry.

On this 4th day of June, A. D. 1896, personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for the aforesaid county, duly authorized to administer oaths, Harry C.

Grove, aged 27 years, a resident of Washington, in the county of Washington and District of Columbia, who, being duly sworn, declared in relation to aforesaid case as follows:

He has been intimately acquainted with Mrs. Mazie V. Sullivan for the space of thirteen or fourteen years; he knows she was dependent on her own labor and exertions for a support up to the time she was placed on the pension roll at \$8 per month under certificate No. 389594, commencing October 3, 1890.

He also knows from his own personal knowledge that said Mazie V. Sullivan continued to sew and do other work to aid in her support since she was placed on the pension rolls, so long as she could do so. She had no other means of support except her little pension. There was and is no person legally bound to support her, and she has no income whatever except her pension. She has no property of any sort except a little household furniture that would not bring \$100. Within the past few months she suffered the amputation of her right hand between the wrist and elbow, which renders her permanently disabled for doing anything toward her support. He further declares that he has no interest in said case and he is not concerned in its prosecution.

HARRY C. GROVE.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, *County of Washington*, ss:

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day by the above-named affiant; and I certify that I read said affidavit to said affiant and acquainted him with its contents before he executed the same. I further certify that I am in no wise interested in said case, nor am I concerned in its prosecution, and that said affiant is personally known to me, and that he is a creditable person.

GEO. E. TERRY,
Notary Public, District of Columbia.

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